

# Eastern Kentucky University

## **1. Are more Kentuckians ready for postsecondary education?**

- Hold staff and faculty meetings with high school site-based councils to emphasize the importance of better preparing high school students for college.
- Determine the need for additional education and training programs in the service region, particularly for adults.
- Expand the "Jump Start" Program for high school seniors.
- Establish up to 50 professional education fellows to serve P-12 public schools.
- Collaborate with schools, educational agencies, businesses, community, civic, and government leaders, through the ECU P-16 Council.
- Establish partnerships with adult education centers to reach and serve GED completers.
- Participate in statewide collaborative efforts to inform prospective students about financial aid availability, including ECU scholarships.

## **2. Are more students enrolling?**

- Continue to serve as an institution of opportunity for our region: enrolling and retaining more students, helping them succeed and increasing the ethnic, cultural, and geographic diversity of the student body.
- Expand the availability of weekend and evening course offerings and academic programs to serve students in the region, using all available technology including KTLN and KYVU.
- Increase and broaden recruiting efforts, including faculty and staff contacts.
- Strengthen partnerships with area community and technical colleges.
- Establish partnerships with independent institutions in our service region.
- Provide frequent opportunities for school children to come to campus.
- Increase the number of courses and programs available through KYVU.

## **3. Are more students advancing through the system?**

- Improve academic advising.
- Utilize the Freshmen Year Experience Program to ease transition from high school.
- Emphasize mentoring and tutoring for students who need the most help as part of an effort to increase the retention rate from 63 percent to as close to 80 percent as possible while improving student performance.
- Utilize established Freshmen Interest Groups and the ECU Parents' Association to involve students and parents.
- Continue the ECU retention scholarship program.

- Implement living/learning environments, with an emphasis upon student support systems and the integration of academic and student life initiatives.
- Develop a comprehensive substance abuse program and health education initiative designed to support student retention during the first year of college.
- Implement a service delivery program for non-traditional students.

#### **4. Are we preparing Kentuckians for life and work?**

- Train teachers for our region and elsewhere in Kentucky.
- Make EKU's teacher education program a model for the state and region.
- Provide timely and effective workforce instruction for business and industry.
- Provide students with cultural experiences that serve as an ethical base necessary to be contributing and fulfilled members of the community.

#### **5. Are Kentucky's communities and economy benefitting?**

- Further develop the outreach efforts of our South Central Small Business Development Center; the Center for Economic Development, Entrepreneurship, and Technology; the division of Natural Areas and; the division of Community and Workforce Education.
- Provide leadership for economic development in the region through the establishment of an eastern Kentucky partnership which takes an entire community approach.
- Expand programs at extended campus sites in Manchester, Corbin, and Danville, and explore additional locations in Hazard and elsewhere.
- Ask what employers need and how satisfied they are with EKU's educational programs for workforce development.
- Inventory the number of collaborative arrangements and partnerships with the public and private educational and economic institutions in the University's service region.
- Seek increased federal dollars for research, teaching, and service activities.
- Increase the EKU endowment from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000 to support scholarships and other programs not supported through state appropriations and tuition revenues.